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**American Orthotic &  
Prosthetic Association**

# AOPA in Advance

## Breaking News for O&P Professionals

March 1, 2011

SPECIAL EDITION

### O&P News

#### **AOPA Provides Statement on Behalf of O&P for Exemption of Both Manufacturers and Patient Care Facilities from the 2.3% Medical Device Excise Tax**

As most of you are aware, these are very busy times in government-both amidst the budget and debt ceiling battles in Washington, DC. and the plethora of state battles over closing budget deficits and dangerous cuts to state Medicaid programs. And with all of this, the battles on implementation of health care reform legislation continue, with a 5<sup>th</sup> U.S. District Court turning in its decision on the law-this one, issued by a judge appointed by a Democratic President, coming out in favor of the new law being constitutional.

With so much of our future-both as patients, and as to the viability of the industry hanging in the balance, AOPA is working at full capacity trying to knock on every possible door to advance your interests and those of your patients. We wanted to share with you an important document which we have provided to officials of the federal government today. The wheels at the IRS and the Department of Treasury are turning on how to collect the new 2.3% medical device excise tax. In mid-February, AOPA reps met with IRS and Treasury officials to explain O&P, its patients and products, and to argue that we fall within one of the key exemptions from this tax. If you read the recent report in the [February 22 edition of AOPA in Advance](#) about that meeting, you know that this tax poses a potential peril to BOTH manufacturers as well as patient care facilities. Today, we availed ourselves of an invitation from IRS and Treasury to put our thoughts and positions in writing, resulting in comments submitted to argue against applicability of this tax to O&P manufacturers and/or patient care facilities.

**[Click here to read AOPA's comments submitted to the IRS regarding the 2.3% Medical Device Tax.](#)**

There is no sign that this fast pace of activities is going to let up. So expect to hear from us again soon, to keep you posted about what is happening that could affect your business, and what AOPA is doing to try to assure the best results for O&P.

Questions? Contact Steven Rybicki at [srybicki@AOPAnet.org](mailto:srybicki@AOPAnet.org) or (571) 431-0835.

## Send Us Your News!

The next **AOPA** *in Advance* will arrive in your inbox on March 8. So if you have a new employee or a new office, tell us! Share your news with the over 15,000 readers of the *O&P Almanac* and **AOPA** *In Advance* newsletter. Contact Steven Rybicki at [srybicki@AOPAnet.org](mailto:srybicki@AOPAnet.org).

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